

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 COME-00

EB-08 FPC-01 INT-05 OMB-01 OES-06 STR-04 TRSE-00

ACDA-07 MCT-01 /113 W

-----221237Z 065622 /20

P R 221140Z APR 77

FM AMCONSUL ASMARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4471

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON

COMNAVTELCOM WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN

COMIDEASTFOR

NAVCOMMUNIT ASMARA

NAVCOMMSTA NEA MAKRI

CNO WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L ASMARA 0330

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS ET

SUBJECT: EPMG AUTHORITIES TAKE STEPS TO CONSERVE FUEL

REF: ASMARA 0270 (DTG 310935Z MAR 77)

1. IN A KNEE-JERK REACTION TO THE SABOTAGE OF THE ASSAB REFINERY ON APRIL 21, THE EPMG AUTHORITIES IN ASMARA HAVE SUSPENDED THE SALES OF ALL POL PRODUCTS IN THE CITY. UPON FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE ASSAB ATTACK, ASMARA RESIDENTS MOBBED THE CITY'S GAS STATIONS TO OBTAIN KEROSENE. AS THERE IS NO FIREWOOD OR
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CHARCOAL AVAILABLE FOR COOKING, KEROSENE IS OF MUCH GREATER CONCERN TO RESIDENTS THAN MOGAS.

2. ON THE MORNING OF APRIL 22, ETHIOPIAN AIRLINES' ASMARA OFFICE WAS INSTRUCTED TO SUSPEND ALL COMMERCIAL FLIGHTS WITHIN THE REGION. MOST OF THESE FLIGHTS HAD ALREADY BEEN HALTED, AS THE AIRCRAFT (DC-3S) HAVE BEEN COMANDEERED BY THE EAF. LIKEWISE, ALL

ADMAS AIR FLIGHTS HAVE BEEN CANCELLED, WHICH WILL SUSPEND AIR TRAVEL TO MASSAWA. NO INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS ARE TO BE REFUELED AT ASMARA AIRPORT UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. ACCORDING TO THE EAL REGIONAL MANAGER, THIS WILL NOT POSE A PROBLEM FOR SOUTHBOUND FLIGHTS, BUT WILL CREATE DIFFICULTIES FOR NORTHBOUND FLIGHTS, AS THEY ORIGINATE IN ADDIS AND USUALLY MUST REFUEL IN ASMARA. THERE HAS BEEN NO CANCELLATION OF INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS AS YET.

3. THERE ARE RUMORS IN ASMARA THAT THE ATTACK ON THE ASSAB REFINERY WAS THE WORK OF ERITREAN INSURGENTS RECENTLY ARRIVED IN THAT AREA. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT IT WAS THE WORK OF THE PLF UNIT REPORTED TO BE MOVING INTO ASSAB PROVINCE IN LATE MARCH (PARA 4 REFTEL).

4. CONGEN WILL MONITOR LOCAL FUEL SITUATION PARTICULARLY AS IT AFFECTS THE SCHEDULE OF MAAG FLIGHTS TO ASMARA.
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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 22-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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